Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 02214 061621Z

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ACTION EUR-06

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P 061553Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8301

UNCLAS OSLO 2214

EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR NO

SUBJECT: KRISTA WRIGHT FLAG PRESENTATION TO KING (CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY)

REF: STATE 116142

1. WE HAVE CONTACTED KRISTA WRIGHT AND BELIEVE HER REQUEST FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING IS NOW ON THE RIGHT TRACK. SHE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SHE DISREGARDED THE ADVICE THAT WAS GIVEN HER IN HER ONLY DIRECT CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY. WEEKS AGO SHE HAD SEVERAL TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH AN AMERICAN SECRETARY, FIRST TO ASK WHETHER EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED THE FLAG, THEN TO SAY SHE HAD RECEIVED IT DIRECTLY AND TO ASK HOW TO GO ABOUT GETTING IT TO THE KING. SHE WAS GIVEN NAME AND EXTENSION OF EMBASSY PROTOCOL OFFICER, WHO PROCESSES ALL REQUESTS FOR AUDIENCES, AND WAS ADVISED TO CALL HIM WHEN HE RETURNED FROM TDY FOLLOWING WEEK. RATHER THAN FOLLOWING THIS ADVICE, MISS WRIGHT NEXT TOOK HER REQUEST TO THE (NORWEGIAN) HEAD OF AFS, WHO UNDERTOOK TO ASSIST HER BUT IN MENTIONING HER PROPOSED PROJECT TO ANOTHER EMBASSY OFFICER DID NOT MAKE IT CLEAR HE WAS ASKING EMBASSY TO REQUEST AUDIENCE.

2. WE EXPLAINED PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING AUDIENCE TO MISS WRIGHT ON PHONE YESTERDAY, AND SHE AGREED TO ADDRESS A LETTER TO AMBASSADOR GIVING INFORMATION ABOUT HERSELF AND EXPLAINING WHY SHE WISHES TO BE RECEIVED BY THE KING. WE HAVE ALREADY DISCUSSED HER FORTHCOMING UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 OSLO 02214 061621Z

REQUEST WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY CHIEF OF PROTOCOL,

AND AS SOON AS WE HAVE HER LETTER (SHE PROMISED TO BRING IT TO EMBASSY TODAY BUT HAS NOT YET DONE SO) WILL FORWARD IT TO PROTOCOL WITH COVERING FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION.

3. THERE IS NO ASSURANCE, OF COURSE, THAT KING (WHO IS NOW ON STATE VISIT TO ICELAND) WILL AGREE TO RECEIVE MISS WRIGHT. ASIDE FROM PROBLEM OF PRECEDENT WITH SO MANY FOREIGN STUDENTS, HE BEGINS VACATION SHORTLY AFTER RETURN FROM ICELAND.
BYRNE

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